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PROGRAM Issues & Answers

STATION WILA TV

ABC Network

DAG June 24, 1979

12:30 PM

C:TY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT Interview with Secretary Harold Brown

ANNOUNCER: To win the battle for ratification, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown must convince a skeptical Senate that SALT II will end the arms race and that our country will be more secure militarily with the treaty than without it.

Here in his office in the Department of Defense, Secretary Brown will be questioned by ABC News congressional correspondent Catherine Mackin and Issues and Answers chief correspondent Bob Clark.

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BOB CLARK: Before we get to SALT, Mr. Secretary, you expressed concern several months ago about the growing danger of the United States being drawn into comflict somewhere in the world over access to oil or other vital resources.

Is our continuing dependence on Middle East oil, demonstrated so dramatically here at home in the past couple of weeks with the long gas lines and the oil shortage, increasing that danger?

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAROLD BROWN: Our energy situation and the failure of the plans that have been suggested to be adopted create, I think, Mr. Clark, a serious potential security problem.

The United States, as you know, but many people don't, imports just about half of its oil. Now, not all of that is from the Middle East. Perhaps a half of the imports are from the Middle East. But our European and Japanese allies import a very much greater fraction.

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